AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 9, 2004 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 22, 2004 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 26, 2003 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 6, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003-04 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 56

Introduced by Assembly Members Steinberg, Chan, Daucher, and Liu

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Nakano and Pavley) (Coauthors: Senators Alpert, Florez, Karnette, and Ortiz)

December 2, 2002

An act relating to child preschool programs.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 56, as amended, Steinberg. Child care, development, and education.

Existing law, commonly referred to as the Compulsory Education Law, subjects pupils between the ages of 6 and 18 to compulsory full-time education.

Existing law, the Child Care and Developmental Services Act, establishes various full- and part-time programs for a comprehensive, coordinated, and cost effective system of developmental services for children to age 14 and their parents. Existing Other existing law, the Kindergarten Readiness Pilot Program, permits, until January 1, 2011, school districts to participate in the program to provide kindergarten preparedness opportunities to increase a child's readiness for school.

AB 56 — 2 —

This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature that the state develop a strategy to ensure that children have access to *quality* preschool programs, *as provided*.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- SECTION 1. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that California develop a cohesive strategy to ensure that children have access to quality preschool programs, including programs that employ qualified staff.
- 5 (b) It is further the intent of the Legislature to begin 6 implementation of this strategy by making quality preschool 7 programs available to the children who can most benefit from 8 them.